# Discovering Adversarial Driving Maneuvers against Autonomous Vehicles

**Ruoyu Song**, M. Ozgur Ozmen, Hyungsub Kim, Raymond Muller, Z. Berkay Celik and Antonio Bianchi

**Purdue University** 

**USENIX Security 2023** 





#### Bloomberg

#### Newsletter | Hyperdrive

#### This \$220 Billion Market Opens Up a Path for Driverless Cars





## Our Goal

• Identify adversarial maneuvers that cause an Autonomous Vehicle to deviate from its <u>mission</u> while maintaining attacker's <u>low liability</u>



#### Missions

- Identify adversarial maneuvers that cause an Autonomous Vehicle to deviate from its <u>mission</u> while maintaining attacker's <u>low liability</u>
- We extract 7 missions that **different levels** of AVs should comply from NHTSA (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration)'s documentation
- Two metrics and categories
  - Distance and Time to Collision (TTC)
- Formalize them to Linear Temporal Logic (LTL) formula
  - E.g.,  $\Box Time_To_Collision(Victim_{Car}, FrontCar) > reaction_time$



# Low Liability

- Identify adversarial maneuvers that cause an Autonomous Vehicle to deviate from its <u>mission</u> while maintaining attacker's <u>low liability</u>
  - Does **not** crash with **any** object in the traffic
  - Does **not** violate traffic rules
- In total, we represent the *low liability* with 7 LTL formulas
  - The attacker should not make excessive maneuvers
  - E.g.,  $\Box$  (throttle  $< \tau_a \land brake < \tau_b \land |steer| < \tau_c$ )





#### Threat Model

• Attackers drive their own car near a victim vehicle

• Attackers have the knowledge of victim car's control software and physical state



### Motivating Example

#### Without Low Liability



#### With Low Liability



#### WARNING: This branch is not tested

master

#### **Car Mission: Lane-Centering**



## Approach

- We use a fuzzing approach to find adversarial maneuvers
- Our fuzzer is using Robustness as a guiding heuristics
  - Robustness defines how well the victim vehicle's physical states (velocity and location) satisfy its safety missions
- When robustness is less than or equal to zero, the AV violates a mission



#### Acero Overview





## Adversarial Command Generator

- Acero conducts a grid search at each round
  - In the initial round, Acero generates a set of adversarial commands without guidance

- Robustness Calculation
  - Robustness defines how well the victim vehicle's physical states (velocity and location) satisfy its safety missions

*TTC\_Robustness* = *TTC*(*Victim*, *object*) - *reaction\_time* 

Dist\_Robustness = Dist(Victim, area)





### Attack Guidance Vector

- Attack Guidance Vector
  - We subtract the relative position between the victim car and attacker car at time n from their relative position at time n + 1
  - $relative_{position}(vv, av, n + 1) relative_{position}(vv, av, n)$





### Adversarial Command Generator

- After the initial round, Acero conducts a grid search guided by the attack guidance vector
  - Grid search with guidance
    - E.g., left steer and throttle grids
  - Terminates when the robustness reaches zero





### Evaluation

- Evaluation Setup
  - Simulator: CARLA
  - AD Software:
    - openpilot
    - Autoware









#### Evaluation

- **341** successful attacks out of **7000** attack attempts
  - **219** on openpilot and **122** on Autoware
  - **13** clusters on openpilot and **15** clusters on Autoware
  - Root Causes: vision blocking, configuration error, and planner error



#### Case Study 1-Autoware (Fails to React to a Stopped Vehicle)





### Case Study 2-Openpilot (Fails to Follow the Front Vehicle)





### Conclusions

- Acero is a trajectory generation system that generates low liability trajectories to cause the AV to fail its missions
  - Mission Identification and Formalization
  - Robustness-guided Adversarial Command Generation
  - Enforcing Physical Constraints on the Adversarial Vehicle
- We extensively evaluated Acero with two AV software (openpilot and Autoware) and identified hundreds of adversarial maneuvers that puts the victim vehicle and other agents in danger



# Thank you! Questions?

song464@purdue.edu

